<u>REMARKS</u>

In the Office Action dated May 18, 2001, claims 8-25 were rejected under § 112 and § 103. Claims 8-25 have been cancelled to render the rejections moot.

New claims 26-40 are added in this Preliminary Amendment. Claims 26 and 34 are independent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MICT-0094-US).

Date: 9/7/01

Respectfully submitted,

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